NEWCASTLE EMLYN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1972

To the Chairman and Members of the Newcastle Emlyn Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In presenting my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1972 it is with deep regret that I have to record it will be my last, and furthermore that Newcastle Emlyn Urban District Council will cease to exist as a Local Authority.

Presumably re-organisation will become a fact in April, 1974, and one trusts that in the amalgamation of areas into larger Authorities the personal contact that present smaller Authorities have had with their electors will not be lost.

Throughout the year the health of the population has remained at a satisfactory level, and a considerable amount of work has been carried out under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, on Improvement Grants and in the general sanitary supervision of the area.

During the year the slaughterhouse, which is situated in the very centre of the town, ceased to function, and because of its location it is to be hoped that it will not re-open, especially as a slaughterhouse.

Throughout the years I have served as your Medical Officer of Health I have never failed to have your co-operation, and in retiring I wish not only to record that fact but to say 'thank you' for the help you have given me and to the courteous manner in which you have always treated me.

I wish to gratefully acknowledge the work carried out by my staff and also thank my colleagues and their staff for their co-operation, help and kindness.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ELFYN T. JONES,
Medical Officer of Health

OFFICIALS OF THE COUNCIL

Clerk and Chief Financial Officer – FRANCIS T. GEORGE, M.B.E, F.C.A, F.R.Econ.S, M.I.L.G.A.

Medical Officer of Health – Dr. ELFYN T. JONES, B.Sc, M.R.C.S, L.R.C.P D.P.H, M.F.C.M.
Official Address and Telephone number: Public Health Department, 3 Spilman Street, Carmarthen. Carmarthen 5131.

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector – D. P. SEAL, M.R.S.H, M.A.P.H.I, M.I.S.W.M.

Rating Officer – Miss S. A. M. DAVIES.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

The Newcastle Emlyn Urban District Authority covers an area of 208 acres. The rateable value of the area is £34,347, the sum represented by a penny rate £314 and the number of inhabited houses 314. The estimated mid-year home population by the Registrar-General is 760.

Newcastle Emlyn is a market town situated in the Teifi Valley in north-west Carmarthenshire, and serves the needs of a scattered agricultural community living in the adjacent countryside including a part of South Cardiganshire and North Pembrokeshire. A milk products factory to which an extension for the manufacture of cheese was opened in 1971, a glove factory, egg-grading station, omnibus depot, together with various shops and businesses provide employment for a number of the population. A branch railway line for goods traffic runs to the

town. A secondary modern school and one primary school serves the town and the surrounding area. Excellent facilities are available for the marketing of animals and marts are held regularly. The town and the surrounding district continues to be a popular tourist and fisherman's resort, and during the holiday season there is a large influx of visitors to the area. A fair proportion of the residents have come to live here in retirement.

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS – There were six live births (2 males; 4 females) during the year, and this gives a crude birth-rate of 5.3 per 1,000 of the population.

STILL-BIRTHS – There were no still-births.

INFANT DEATHS – There were no infant deaths.

DEATHS (all Ages)–Deaths during the year totalled fourteen (5 males; 9 females), giving a crude death rate of 18.4 per 1,000 population.

The causes of death were:—

Cause of Death	Sex	Total All Ages	Age in Years 35–44	55–64	65–74	75+
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity	F	1	—	—	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus..	M	1	—	—	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	M	1	—	—	—	1
	F	1	—	—	—	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease ..	M	1	1	—	—	—
	F	3	—	—	3	—
Cerebrovascular Disease ..	M	1	—	—	1	—
	F	1	—	—	1	—
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	F	1	—	—	—	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	F	1	—	—	1	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis ..	F	1	—	1	—	—
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	M	1	—	1	—	—
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	5	1	1	1	2
	F	9	—	1	5	3

PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Hospital, Laboratory and Ambulance facilities: The district is served mainly by the West Wales General Hospital, Carmarthen and Cardigan Hospital. Cases of mental disease receive treatment at St. David's Hospital, Carmarthen. Clinics for the treatment of Venereal Diseases are held at the West Wales General Hospital, Glangwili, Carmarthen. Free treatment may be obtained at these Clinics under conditions of secrecy and confidence. The clinics are held as follows:—

Males and Females – First and third Friday in each month 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Bacteriological and Pathological investigations are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory and the Pathological Department at the West Wales General Hospital, Glangwili, Carmarthen, and the resources of these laboratories are always available to medical practitioners.

Ambulance facilities, including facilities for the transport of sitting car cases, are under the control of the County Council.

Home Nursing Service: This service is undertaken by two district nurses in the direct employ of the County Council, who also cover part of the Newcastle Emlyn Rural District.

Child Health Clinic:

One child health clinic is held.

Ante-Natal Clinics:

No Ante-Natal Clinic has been established in the area.

The Care of Unmarried Mothers and their Children

Arrangements are made for unmarried mothers to be admitted to one of the following hostels: – Northlands, Cardiff; Cwmdonkin Shelter, Swansea; The Llandaff Diocesan Moral Welfare Committee Hostel, Penarth or the St. Martin's Home, Hereford. These arrangements are made by the County Council and also the St. Davids Diocesan Moral Welfare Committee.

Chiropody Service:

A voluntary organisation has established a chiropody clinic in the town.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During the year, three cases of Measles were notified, the three were children under 9 years of age.

There were no cases of Tuberculosis on the Register as at 31st December, 1972.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Statistics relating to vaccination and immunisation during the year for the County as a whole, given by the County Medical Officer of Heath, are as follows—

BCG Vaccination	*Contact Scheme*	*School Children*
No. Skin tested	108	1,027
No. found negative	98	895
No. vaccinated	82	887

Vaccination of persons under 16

	Born 1972	Born 1971	Born 1970	Born 1969	Born 65-68	Others —16	Boosters
Triple Antigen	*124	742	77	12	26	5	1,080
Diphtheria/Tetanus ..	—	26	6	19	24	10	533
Tetanus	5	1	5	3	26	241	173
Polio	*97	767	101	33	81	16	1,448
Measles	1	68	149	29	33	7	—
Rubella	—	—	—	—	—	289	—

*For children born since 1972 appointments under the computer scheme are made at the current recommended schedule of primary procedure i.e. first appointment offered at six months and full primary course not completed until child is in second year of life. Hence the reduced figure for this particular age group.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS 1948 and 1951

Section 47 of the 1948 Act – Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

No case called for action to be taken by the Council during the year now under review.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

The Cardiganshire Water Board is the water authority for the district. Thirty-one routine samples have been taken during the year and all proved satisfactory.

Sewerage and Drainage

Further connections to the main sewer were made during the year. A small number of properties remain unconnected but it is expected that the owners of these will carry out their duty and connect in the near future.

Scavenging and Rodent Control

Refuse is collected on a once weekly basis, the service being carried out by the Teifiside Rural District Council. Disposal is by controlled tipping.

Cases of rodent and insect infestation received prompt attention by the Council's workmen under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT AND REGULATIONS

The Food and Drugs Authority for the area is the County Council. Mr. E. G. Nicholls, Chief Trading Standards Officer of the County Council, reports as follows on work done during the year in the area of the Newcastle Emlyn Urban District under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 and the various Regulations and Orders made thereunder:—

Total number of samples procured for examination and analysis in order to ascertain whether they were free from adulteration or irregularity in composition	33
Milk samples submitted for bacteriological examination	17
Total ..	50

The samples procured for examination and analysis for compositional quality comprised the following:—Fifteen of Milk; Four of Faggots; Three each of Sausages and Liqueur Chocolates; Two of Butter; One each of Butter Confectionery, Jam, Marzipan, Demerara Sugar, Malt Vinegar and Lemon Drink.

One sample of Butter was criticised by the Public Analyst on account of the fact that the moisture content found (16.3%) was slightly in excess of the maximum amount of 16% permitted under the Butter Regulations, 1966. The manufacturer concerned was warned.

All the remaining samples were reported to be satisfactory in compositional quality.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations

Seventeen samples of milk were taken from licensed milk-dealers and were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Glangwili, Carmarthen, for examination under the appropriate bacteriological tests specified in the above Regulations. The results of the tests carried out on these milk samples were as follows:—

Pasteurised Milk

Eight samples were taken and all were reported to have satisfied both the Phosphatase test for adequacy of heat-treatment and the Methylene Blue test for keeping quality, etc.

Untreated Milk

Satisfield Methylene Blue test	7
Failed Methylene Blue test	2
	9

The nine samples of Untreated Milk were also examined for Brucella abortus infection. Three samples gave positive results under the Brucella Ring test but Brucella abortus was not isolated in any of these samples under the follow up Culture test.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Record of visits for 1972:—

General Sanitation

Nature of Visit or Inspection	No of Visits
Water Supplies	27
Drainage	42
Bakehouses	8
Public Conveniences	221
Refuse Collection	1
Rats and Mice	10
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	261

Housing

Under Housing and Public Health Acts

Number of houses inspected	49
Visits paid to above houses	73
Miscellaneous housing visits	11

Meat and Food Inspection

Inspection of Meat and Meat Shops

Number of slaughterhouses in area (closed 31/3/72)	1
Number of visits to the above slaughterhouse	102
Number of visits to Shops and Stalls	18
Number of visits to Butchers	5

Ice-Cream

Number of Ice-Cream Manufacturers in area	–
Number of Ice-Cream Retailers in area	6

The Food and Drugs Act, 1955

The Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970

Frequent visits were made by the Public Health Inspector to various food premises in the town in order to maintain the highest possible standard of hygiene

	No. fitted to comply with Reg. 18	*No. to which Reg.* 21 *applies*	*No. fitted to comply with Reg.* 21
Grocers' Shops (6)	6	6	6
Greengrocers' Shops (3)	3	3	3
Bakers' Shops (2)	2	2	2
Butchers' Shops (2)	2	2	2
Cafes (5)	5	5	5

The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regs. 1963

No. of egg pasteurisation plants in the district——Nil

Foodstuffs condemned by the Public Health Inspector at Shops etc. (excluding the Slaughterhouse):—

Fruit and Meat Products—2 tins.

Condemned foodstuffs are disposed of by burial on the Refuse Disposal Site.

Poultry Processing Premises

No. of poultry processing premises in the district—Nil

Housing

Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	23
Number of Inspections made for the purpose	45

Unfit Houses Closed

Under Sect. 16 (4), 17 (1) and 35 (1) Housing Act, 1957 and Sect. 26 Housing Act, 1961	1

Unfit Houses made Fit:

	By Owner
After informal action by local Authority	9

Improvement Grants:

Number of Applications for Discretionary Grants approved during the year	5
Number of Applications for Standard Grants approved during the year ..	1

PRIVATE SLAUGHTERHOUSES

Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963

The private slaughterhouse in the area was closed on March 31, 1972.

In accordance with the requirements of the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963, all the animals slaughtered there have been inspected by the Public Health Inspector and the carcases passed fit for human consumption have been marked with a distinguishing stamp.

During the year the following animals were examined:—

Number of Cattle (including cows)	518
Number of Calves	69
Number of Sheep and Lambs	320
Number of Pigs	243

Details of Carcases and Offal condemned at the Slaughterhouse:—

Whole Carcases:—

1. Bovine – 323 lbs.
2 Sheep – 65 lbs.

Part Carcases – 1,341 lbs

Offal – 3,618 lbs.

All unfit meat and offal was sent to an animal by-products manufacturer situated in the neighbouring authority's area.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

Thirty-one inspections of offices and shops were carried out during the year and any contraventions were rectified as a result of informal action.

No accidents were notified during the year.

Administration of the Factories Act, 1961: Duties of the Sanitary Authority under the Factories Acts have been carried out by the Public Health Inspector as part of his routine work, and a close liaison has been maintained with the District Inspector of Factories.

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector).

	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	—	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	8	7	2	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	3	1	—	—
Total ..	11	8	—	—

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) ..					
(a) Insufficient	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for Sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	2	2	Nil	Nil	Nil

PART VIII OF THE ACT
OUTWORK
(Sections 133 and 134)

The return required under Part VIII of the Act is "Nil."

"Journal," Carmarthen